

# Business & Technology Update



Thursday, November 7, 2019 | [coop.com](http://coop.com) | [BTS Website](#) | [Archive](#) | [Web Version](#) |

## Cobb EMC's Innovative Rate Design

Part of our *Advancing Energy Access for All* initiative, this case study highlights how Cobb EMC has implemented a new portfolio of rate options, in conjunction with a rate selection tool and an extensive educational awareness campaign, to help maintain energy affordability for all of their member-owners.

- **Case Study: Cobb EMC**
- **Advancing Energy Access for All Website**
- **Contacts:** Keith Dennis and Adaora Ifeigh

## Online Version of RC3 Cybersecurity Self-Assessment Now Available

NRECA worked with Axio Global, Inc. to develop an online version of the RC3 Cybersecurity Self-Assessment, providing enhanced features not feasible in the hardcopy version. Co-ops can now apply as a group to receive a free, multi-year group license to access this new online version.

- **Advisory with More Details**
- **Frequently Asked Questions**
- **Contact:** Cynthia Hsu

## Improving Phase Balance Through Inverter Reactive Power Control

Phase imbalance caused by the growth of distributed generation can increase technical losses and reduce the efficiency of three-phase motors. NRECA worked with Argonne National Laboratory to develop a new phase balancing control tool for distributed generation, called 'phaseBalance,' now available on NRECA's Open Modeling Framework (OMF) website, [omf.coop](http://omf.coop).

- **Advisory**
- **Contact:** David Pinney

## Distribution Optimal Resilience Design Tool "LPNORM"

NRECA worked with Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) to develop an Optimal Resiliency Model software tool called "LPNORM." This new tool, available on NRECA's Open Modeling Framework ([www.omf.coop](http://www.omf.coop)) allows users to import distribution circuit and pole models, model damage from extreme weather events, input resilience criteria, and generate optimal design solutions to improve the resilience of the system.

- **LPNORM Project Report**
- **Contact:** David Pinney

## Share Your Analytics Success Stories

NRECA is looking to highlight co-op best practices in analytical applications through a new case studies series. If your co-op is deploying more advanced analytical applications and software for use in transformer health monitoring, meter data anomaly detection, real time

### Upcoming Events

- **2020 TechAdvantage® Experience**  
March 1-4, 2020, New Orleans, LA
- **Electrification 2020 International Conference & Exposition**  
April 6-9, 2020, Charlotte, NC
- **2020 Safety Leadership Summit**  
April 15-17, Orlando, FL



performance dashboards, etc., we want to hear from you! Please contact Adaora Ifebigh by November 21.

- Contact: [Adaora Ifebigh](#)

## Consumer Expectations of the Connected Home

NRECA partnered with individual cooperatives and E Source to assess changing consumer attitudes. This advisory reviews the major findings related to the emerging smart home market and what consumers may desire in a utility program.

- **Advisory**
- Contact: [Brian Sloboda](#)

## Opportunities and Challenges of Increasing Wind Turbine Tower Height

The U.S. DOE NREL recently completed a research report to analyze factors associated with increasing wind turbine tower heights. Their goal is to share the opportunities and potential of higher above ground hubs, as well as explore conditions and locations where taller towers offer the most significant potential to increasing performance and reducing costs.

- **Advisory**
- Contacts: [Dan Walsh](#) and [Dale Bradshaw](#)

## Blue Ridge Energy Meets Community Needs with Dark Fiber

Blue Ridge Energy, one of the largest electric cooperatives in North Carolina, and its subsidiary RidgeLink, LLC offer an alternative broadband model than most cooperatives. This new case study highlights how the cooperative and its subsidiary have focused on dark fiber and related infrastructure, including co-location facilities, and serving a number of major carriers, ISPs, and community institutions.

- **Case Study: Blue Ridge Energy**
- **Broadband Case Study Series**
- Contact: [Paul Breakman](#)

## 2020 Safety Leadership Summit: Registration Open

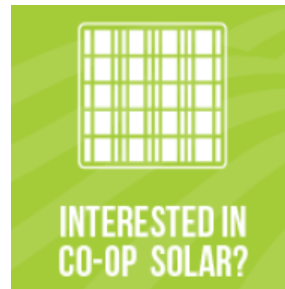
Join us in Orlando, April 15-17 for the 2020 Safety Leadership Summit - NRECA's premier industry, educational, and networking event for electric co-op staffers responsible for safety. Come learn the latest strategies and tools to support a culture of safety across your co-op.

- **Registration**
- Contact: [Perron Nicholas](#)

## Call for Presentations for ACEEE Energy Efficiency Finance Forum: Deadline Friday

ACEEE is accepting submissions for their 13th Energy Efficiency Finance Forum (EEFF), a one-day conference to explore cutting-edge initiatives and major opportunities to finance projects that save energy, reduce costs, and create jobs. NRECA resources highlighting co-op efforts in these areas include: [Advancing Energy Access for All Initiative](#) and [Broadband Case Studies](#).

- **ACEEE Energy Efficiency Finance Forum**
- **Advancing Energy Access for All Website**
- **Broadband Case Studies Website**
- Contacts: [Adaora Ifebigh](#) (Advancing Energy Access for All) and [Paul Breakman](#) (Broadband)



## NRECA Sponsors Electrification Conference

NRECA is proud to be an official Supporting Organization of the Electrification 2020 International Conference & Exposition, being hosted by the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) on April 6-9, 2020 in Charlotte, North Carolina. This event will bring together stakeholders across industry sectors for vital conversations on accelerating the use of electrification technologies.

- **Advisory**
- Contacts: Keith Dennis and Maria Kanevsky

## 2020 TechAdvantage® Experience: Registration Opening Soon

Make plans to come to New Orleans next March 1-4 for the 2020 TechAdvantage® Experience! New: The **2020 TechAdvantage® ENCORE** product that offers the opportunity to gain access to recordings of breakout sessions delivered at the event.

- [Details About the 2020 TechAdvantage® Experience](#)
- Contact: [Mary Ackleson](#)

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